Electrification of Ernakulam Town.

207. Mr. P. C. Varkey.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how the application from Messrs. Chandrie and Co., Ltd., Madras, for the grant of a license for the Electrification of the Ernakulam Town (a notice of which has been published more than two months ago) was disposed of;

(b) whether there is any prospect of the Town being supplied with Electric lights in the near future; and

(c) if the answer is in the negative, will they be pleased to state the nature of the impediments standing in the way of its introduction immediately?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.— (a) The license has been granted.

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise.

Payment of Bills in the P. W. D.

208. Mr. P. C. Varkey.— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the number of bills passed for payment by the P. W. D. Head Office during each month in 1110, from Chingam to Karkadagam, with the aggregate amount appropriated in each month;

(b) if any of the bills submitted for payment in any one month has not been passed for payment during the month, the name of the work for which the bill was received in the Head Office and for which payment was not made and the reason for the same;

(c) may I know whether a very large number of bills are received in the Head Office of P. W. D. during the last month of the year;

(d) if the answer is in the affirmative, may I know whether it is not desirable to draw up a working programme for the completion of works, budgetted for the year, within a reasonable time, before the monsoon starts, so as to avoid this enormous influx of bills in Karkadagam?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.— (a) A list showing the particulars is appended. *(Appendix VI).*

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